

Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee

Submission by
Cherish Life Townsville

Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016, introduced into the Queensland legislative Assembly on 17th of August, 2016 by Mr Robert Pyne M.P., Member for Cairns.

Cherish Life Townsville strongly opposes this proposed Amendment Bill which:

1. Removes any limitation on Abortion.
2. Ignores the medical fact that babies are viable after 24 weeks and every effort should be made to preserve the life of a Queenslander.
3. Provides no safeguards for Doctors, nurses and other medical staff who do not wish to be a party to an abortion in any circumstance.
4. Has no requirement for two doctors to actually review and examine the patient, before the abortion is carried out. Consultation is not a review.
5. Ignores the statistics - A recent poll conducted by Galaxy Research for the Australian Family Association, shows that Queenslanders who believe that abortion should not be decriminalized (49%) outnumbered those in favour of the decriminalization of abortion (43%).¹
6. Ignores the inalienable right to life from conception to natural expiration and that human life is to be regarded as sacrosanct.
7. Ignores the right to protection for all human life in Queensland, especially the weak such as elderly, unborn and disadvantaged (physically and intellectually).
8. Ignores the right to justice for Queenslanders.
9. Denies that all Queenslanders have the same human rights as everyone else.

¹ “Poll Result 2016, Galaxy Research for the Australian Family Association

10. Ignores the fact that Abortion by whichever means is an invasive "procedure" on both the mother and the baby. Abortion invades a pregnant woman's state of mind and changes her forever. It is invasive on the baby resulting in his/her primary human right, the right to life, being violated. If the right to life is not upheld then all other Human Rights are meaningless.

It is tragic that Mr Pyne believes the best way to help women who are distressed by their pregnancy is to allow the killing of their unborn babies. The acceptance of this proposed Amendment will portray Queensland as an uncompassionate, uncaring and unjust society.

A society is judged in the future by how they treat the vulnerable in society. Queensland is not living up to its reputation of being a just society that defends the Human Rights of its people.

Michael Punshon

President

Cherish Life Townsville

3rd of October 2016

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